

BOTH SIDES ARE CLAIMING OFFICE

Friends of McCarthy and of Richardson Stoutly Predict Defeat of Each Other.

RULES OF VOTING EXPLAINED AGAIN

Instructions to Voters

To make plain the primary plan for the election of the voters, the City Committee submits, in short terms, the following instructions:

Pledge.
Should a voter scratch, mutilate or alter any portion of the pledge, his ballot will be thrown out entirely.

Officers and Delegates.
Should an error occur in the section of the ticket, in which the candidates for Mayor, Aldermen, Councilmen or Delegates to the convention appear, the part of the ballot relating to Councilmen and Delegates (Mayor, Aldermen, Councilmen or Delegates) will be thrown out and the parts properly marked will be regularly counted.

Scratching Portions of Ticket.
Voter may vote any particular portion of the ticket, leaving the rest unmarked, and it will be counted; that is, he may vote for Mayor and scratch all rest of ticket, leaving the rest of ticket unmarked, and it will be counted for Mayor. He may, on the other hand, vote for proper number of candidates for either Mayor, Aldermen, Councilmen or Delegates, excepting the Mayor, and the same result. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST THE PLEDGE BE SCRATCHED, OR THE BALLOT WOULD THEN BE VOID.

Doubt Removed by Official Statement from Committee—Pledge Will Keep Many Democrats from the Polls—No Republican Vote This Year.

ON the eve of the municipal primary, with chief interest centered in the election of Mayor, there is a great deal of talk about the relative chances of the main candidates. Each side predicts defeat for the other, expressing, at the same time, the most hopeful view of its own ability to win. After a whirlwind finish of a dull and desultory campaign, Mayor Carlton McCarthy and Judge David C. Richardson are resting up for the final struggle to-night, when they will address the voters of Madison Ward at Sanger Hall. Otherwise, the day will be devoid of oratorical struggles.

For Council and Delegates.
Except in three wards there is no contest for seats in the Board of Aldermen. In Monroe, with two vacancies to be filled, there are three candidates—Aldermen James A. Moncre and R. G. Reynolds and Mr. Wilmer D. Turner. The retirement of Alderman Douglass in Marshall leaves the field open for a contest between Mr. E. B. Moncrie, a son of Judge Richardson, and Mr. B. C. Southern. In Madison, Dr. St. Julian Oppenheimer is running against Mr. G. A. Marks.

In the other wards there is no opposition, and at most there can be only three changes, if any, in the upper branch.

Candidates for the Common Council in some of the wards will be knocked down like tenpins in a bowling alley, for the reason that there are more men running than there are honors to bestow. The strong center is Jefferson. The outs may trim the edges of the lower branch by electing new members, but there is no positive information upon which to base a reliable prediction. In a word, the race is open, with a world of doubt around it.

There is no contest for delegates to the Roanoke convention except in three precincts—First Lee, Second Marshall and Fourth Jefferson. The candidates in these are as follows:

First Lee (to elect two)—W. Waller, Mesquite, Charles L. Carrington, M. S. Valentine.

Second Marshall (to elect two)—John I. Satterfield, N. W. Atkinson, E. B. White.

Fourth Jefferson (to elect one)—W. W. Durbin, E. L. Hester.

To Scrutinize Delegates and Vote.
Although the action of the City Democratic Committee in requiring all citizens who go into the primary to pledge themselves to support the Democratic nominees in the presidential election will largely reduce the total vote, the cut may not be as great as appeared to be certain a week ago. This is explained by the fact that hundreds of Democrats will vote only for Mayor and members of Council, reserving for consideration the moral obligation to stand by the party nominee in November. Candidates for the convention, therefore, will be scratched by the wholesale, but the pledge will stand just the same.

The opinion had been freely given up to ten days ago that the total primary vote would not exceed \$500. What it may really be is a matter of more or less conjecture. It is nevertheless true, however, that a large number of people who have invariably entered the primary will this time abstain from voting.

With the double pledge between 200 and 300 Republicans, who would otherwise cast their ballots for municipal officers, will take no part in the voting. The amended plan of the committee was not urged as a means of making it strictly a Democratic election, but to force all Democrats to be Democratic in the fall if they exercised their right of suffrage in the primary.

What Candidates Claim.
Even though they admit that the double pledge will keep a number of his supporters from the polls, friends of Mayor McCarthy declare that he will be re-elected by a majority of 1,500. On the other hand, Judge Richardson's friends, a trifle more conservative, claim that he will win by 500 majority. Followers of both candidates, however, are urging a full vote, entailing a Democratic election, which will be re-elected by a majority of 1,500.

(Continued on Second Page.)

BRITISH CABINET

Mr. Asquith Announces His Conference—John Morley to Accept a Peerage.
LONDON, April 12.—Official announcement was made to-night of the new cabinet appointments. They are identical with the forecast, made by the Chronicle a few days ago, and announced in these dispatches, as follows:

Herbert H. Asquith, Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury; David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Lord Tweedmouth, President of the Council; Earl of Crewe, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary of State for India; Lord Curzon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War; Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for the Navy; Lord Milner, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary of State for India; Lord Curzon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War; Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for the Navy; Lord Milner, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

There had been some speculation as to whether the new Premier would think it well to dissolve Parliament, and he would have been fully justified in assuming the government under the somewhat unusual circumstance of taking the course of appealing to the country for a new mandate. He has, however, evidently decided otherwise.

His aim in composing the cabinet seemingly has been to avoid as far as possible a by-election in constituencies where the faith in Liberalism is wavering. The changes as announced will only necessitate four by-elections, of which three are to be held respectively by John Morley, Walter Runciman and Sir Henry Fowler, may be considered quite safe. Winston Churchill's re-election in Manchester, however, is considered decidedly doubtful. Until won by Mr. Churchill, after one of the most notable contests thirty months ago, this seat had been for a decade a Conservative stronghold. Mr. Churchill will throw himself into the struggle with all his well-known tenacity, but he will have the hardest possible task to hold his seat.

Now that it is officially confirmed, perhaps the most striking feature in the new cabinet is the leap of David Lloyd-George to the front rank in political life. As a second minister in rank he becomes the deputy leader of the House of Commons and prospective heir to the premiership should any unforeseen accident leave that office vacant.

JOHN MORLEY A HERO

Will Enter House of Lords so as to Pay Stepson's Debt.
LONDON, April 12.—John Morley's decision to finish his career with his title, as a member of that august body, has been hailed by many as a heroic deed, and a representative, anti-democratic assembly, which he declared ten years ago should be either a House of Commons or a House of Lords, or neither.

Morley has a stepson named Ayling, who became a speculator on the Stock Exchange and a member of the House of Commons. He has been convicted of fraud and is now serving a term in prison.

Morley has undertaken to repay the whole amount and has bound himself to pay annually a certain sum. It is believed that the House of Lords cannot stand the strain of the work of the Commons long enough to enable him to pay this debt that he is going to the House of Lords in order that he may remain in the Cabinet and draw a minister's salary of \$25,000 a year.

COUNT POTOCKI MURDERED

Governor of Galicia Shot Down by Student Who Had Killed a Russian.
LEMBOURG, AUSTRIA-HUNGARY, April 12.—Count Andreas Potocki, the governor of Galicia, was assassinated in the city of Lemberg, Poland, today. The assassin, a student named Mieczyslaw Syczynski, was shot down by a Russian soldier. The assassin was shot down by a Russian soldier.

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SEABOARD COMMITTEE

List of Those Who Will Reorganize the Road.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
BALTIMORE, April 12.—The reorganization committee for the Seaboard Air Line Railway has been formed. It is composed of the following: Messrs. C. Sidney Shepard, chairman; James A. Blair, Hugo Blumenthal, Russell G. Fessenden, Thomas J. Haydon, James H. Jennings, Henry E. Kings, John B. Ramsey, Norman E. Ream, William A. Read, Thomas F. Ryan, Ernest Thalmann, George W. Watts, John Skelton Williams.

The secretary to the committee is D. C. Portous.

In personnel, the organization committee is representative of all classes of securities concerned. It is regarded in financial circles that the Seaboard first 4 per cent. bonds, the general mortgage bonds and the stocks are the securities with which the reorganization committee will have to deal.

It is understood that it will be some time before steps are taken or any plan is announced dealing with the reorganization of the property. It was thought advisable, however, by those interested, to organize a committee for this important work.

BURGERS BEAT MAN AND ROB HIS WIFE

ELKTON, MD., April 12.—Postmaster Morris of Elkton, Md., was last night shot in the leg and beaten with a club by three masked burglars, who afterward compelled him to give them \$50 in cash.

Before attacking the postmaster and his wife, the burglars broke into the home of the postmaster's wife. They escaped and are thought to have come in this direction, but have not yet been caught.

300 Men Go to Work

GADSDEN, ALA., April 12.—After having been closed for three months, the plant of the Consolidated Coal and Iron Company here was put in blast to-day. Three hundred men have been put back to work, and the force will be increased early this week.

Senile Fever at Harvard.
BOSTON, MASS., April 12.—A light case of senile fever has appeared among the students at Harvard University, and there are eighteen afflicted students confined in Stillman Infirmary, with a number of other cases scattered throughout the dormitories.

HARRIMAN OWNS FROM SEA TO SEA

Last Link Will Be Completed April 19, When Birmingham Division Will Be Opened.

ROUTE WILL OPEN UP RESOURCES OF SOUTH

First Trains of Illinois Central and Mobile and Ohio Will Enter Birmingham on Same Day. Great Fete Planned and Banquet to Railway Officers.
BIRMINGHAM, ALA., April 12.—The official announcement by the Illinois Central that the new Birmingham division will be opened for traffic April 19th calls attention to the completion of the last link in the great Harriman transcontinental route, for by controlling the Union Pacific, Illinois Central and Central of Georgia, this system will extend from the Pacific to the Atlantic. In addition to supplying the last link in this chain, the opening of the Haleyville branch will give the Illinois Central an outlet to the great iron and coal fields of the West. The Central of Georgia, this system will connect with those of the Illinois Central, thus giving a direct connection from all Illinois Central points with the sea at Savannah, over the Central of Georgia. Connections of the Illinois Central with the Union Pacific, thus give a complete system from one ocean to the other. The connection is expected to benefit the Southeastern States and to increase Savannah's importance as a seaport, for, in addition to the first train, on April 19th, the Central of Georgia will receive much of the grain and other traffic of the Mississippi Valley.

The Mobile and Ohio will open its new Birmingham branch on April 19th and present plans contemplating having the first train enter both lines reach Birmingham the same day. To this end the commercial organizations of Birmingham have planned an elaborate reception. The new train bearing officers of the two lines will be guests of honor at a big banquet to be given at the night of April 19th, and the night of April 20th, and the presidents and high officials of all the railroads entering Birmingham have been invited. The entrance of the Illinois Central has been accepted by certain traffic arrangements and by the building of an entire new line from Corinth, Miss., to Haleyville, Ala., a distance of eighty miles.

Route of Roads.

Leaving the main line at Jackson, Tenn., the Illinois Central will come into Birmingham by the following route: Mobile and Ohio, from Jackson to Corinth, Miss.; Corinth to Haleyville, Ala., new line eighty miles; Northern Alabama (owned by Southern Railway), Haleyville to Jasper, Ala., forty-one miles; Jasper to Birmingham, forty-one miles; Alabama Western (owned by Illinois Central), into terminals 2.75 miles, a total of about 220 miles.

The construction of the new Haleyville branch has been difficult and expensive, because of the rough character of the country. The route follows a water-shed most of the distance, so that but one bridge of any importance had to be built. This, however, is one of the largest in the Southern States. It is 1,230 feet long and 171 feet at the highest point.

Although the country through which the new branch passes is very rough the road has been built with the low gradient of 0.5 per cent. on tangent, and a maximum curvature of 3 1/2 degrees. The Mobile and Ohio, which will run its first train into Birmingham on the same date with the Illinois Central, will accomplish its entrance without building any new track. It will use the new Haleyville branch of the Illinois Central, from Corinth to Haleyville, eighty miles, Northern Alabama, Haleyville to Parrish, Ala., fifty miles; Southern Railway, Parrish to Birmingham, forty-two miles, making a total of 172 miles.

The Mobile and Ohio is now building freight terminals in Birmingham, and for passenger business will use the new terminal station.

CARDS WARD OFF DEATH

Pasture Diverts Old Man's Mind—Son Summoned From Austria.
ALTON, ILL., April 12.—Dropped in bed, Joseph Huffer has played cards with his friends almost continuously for two weeks. He has been in the last sleep so that he may see his son Louis once again before he dies.

The old man's physician fears that should he cease the pastime that diverts his mind and keeps him awake he would sink into a stupor from which it would be difficult to arouse him.

MAY BE FIREBUG

Two Big Fires in the Same Neighborhood Within 24 Hours.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
URBANA, VA., April 12.—On yesterday afternoon the large frame mansion, formerly the home of the late Brastus Montague, but now the property of Mr. E. A. Boyer, near Church View, was destroyed by fire.

The origin of the fire is not known. To-day about 12 o'clock a steam saw-mill near here, belonging to W. F. Davis, of Kilnwood, Va., was also destroyed by fire, together with a large quantity of sawed lumber. No insurance was carried on either building.

Death Christmas Cruisers.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., April 12.—Robert G. Gammon, an engineer, employed at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, was fatally injured this afternoon, by plunging headlong into the bottom of the engine room of the new United States armored cruiser, Montana, at the shipyard. He was removed to the Francis Hospital, but no hopes for his recovery are entertained. He lived in Phoebus.

TROOPS RUSHED TO PENSACOLA

Adjutant-General of Florida Orders All State Military to Scene of Trouble.

RUMORS AFLOAT THAT JAIL WAS DESTROYED

Mayor Goodman Proclaims Curfew Law to Prevent Gathering of Crowds—Laboring Men Hold Monster Mass-Meeting—Cars to Be Run To-Day.
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., April 12.—The following order was received late this afternoon from the Adjutant-General J. Clifford P. Foster from Tallahassee: "Assemble companies A, D and F immediately and proceed by afternoon train for Pensacola, there reporting to Colonel Leffles on arrival. Take every available man; heavy marching order; twenty rounds multiple ball cartridges per man. Commutation of rail fares allowed for trip, and if possible take field ranges. Afternoon train will be held three-quarters of an hour. Sound general alarm so as to get men out quickly, and take as many as possible." Immediately upon receipt of this message the fire whistle sounded the riot call. Almost instantly military men, policemen, deputy sheriffs and special officers rushed to their headquarters, and at 6 o'clock 170 men were marching double quick time to the depot.

Following them was the Gatling gun detachment, and at 6:30 o'clock the train pulled out, amid cheers from the excited crowd that had gathered at the depot.

All Available Troops.

In addition to the Jacksonville companies, every available man in the State militia service was ordered to get on the first train. A special from Live Oak stated that the Suwannee Guards, the Tallahassee, Apalachicola and other companies had proceeded to Pensacola on the morning train. Wild rumors were afloat on the streets this afternoon that the mob had destroyed the jail, and that the strike-breakers, and another rumor was to the effect that the Federal troops had mutinied. These reports, however, were not given credence.

Knowing that the Pensacola Electric Company intends to make an attempt to operate cars to-morrow, it is believed that the military companies were ordered to that city to be on hand in case of further trouble.

Curfew Law.

PENSACOLA, FLA., April 12.—With the exception of a monster mass meeting of all organized laboring men of Pensacola, there were no developments in the strike situation here to-day. Mayor C. C. Goodman early this morning issued a proclamation placing the curfew law in effect, and to-night all residents, excepting officers actually on duty, were ordered to be in their homes by 10 o'clock, or else be arrested and detained for the night. This order is to prevent crowds from gathering on the streets.

Two additional military companies arrived during the day, making a total of four, with two more to come during the night. It is expected cars will be started to-morrow.

Pensacola Quiet.

PENSACOLA, FLA., April 12.—At 10 o'clock to-night the streets are practically deserted, and the city is quieter than on any night since the great railway strike was inaugurated.

FIRE AND THE STORK

Both Visit Residence of O. R. Johnson—Mother and Child Saved.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
RALEIGH, N. C., April 12.—A fire that started about noon to-day rendered three families homeless and damaged one other residence severely, having started from a defective gas in the kitchen of the Johnsons, who are burning gas. The Johnsons, who are a family of Mr. O. R. Johnson.

The stork had visited the Johnson home early in the morning, and the mother and child were saved. The fire spread from the Johnson home to a large double house, one of the Johnsons, who are a family of Mr. O. R. Johnson.

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BULL BEATS HORSE

Farmer Boy Rides Animal Sixteen Miles Over Road Mountain Road.
BERWICK, PA., April 12.—Elmer Rantz, of Benton township, Columbia county, has a bull that he has trained to ride on his back. The animal made a record, Rantz rode the bull over the sixteen miles of rough hill road between Benton and North Mountain in less than two hours, beating his father, who was driving a horse, by more than half an hour.

The bull was then harnessed to the wagon, the horse hitched on behind and the bull pulled the wagon back to Benton in less time that he took to ascend the grade in North Mountain with young Rantz on his back.

Rantz uses the bull nearly all the time, and he has not lost a horse in his farm work, but in trips to other towns.

Trails Dynamite Over a Lamp.

MAHANNA CITY, PA., April 12.—John Bryson, of Franklin, held a stick of dynamite over a mining lamp at Locust Spring Mine to-day. It exploded, blew out his eyes and shattered his left arm. This was his first day in the mines.

WEATHER

Fair and warmer.

DELAWARE FOR GRAY

Delegation Will Practically be Unanimous For Judge Gray as Nominee.
DOVER, DEL., April 12.—The result of the primaries yesterday indicate that Delaware will send practically a unanimous delegation in favor of Judge Gray for the presidential nomination. A few districts in Kent county seem to have been carried by Bryan adherents, but it is practically certain that the State convention on Tuesday will be strongly in favor of sending to the national convention a delegation instructed to do all it can for the nomination of Judge Gray, although it may be necessary to give some of the Bryan adherents representation on the delegation. They say they may vote for Judge Gray on the first ballot at Denver.

GRAY LEAGUE

Address Sent Broadcast Setting Out Claims of Delaware Man.
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 12.—The George Gray League, which was organized at a meeting at the Hotel Philadelphia, has sent to Senators, Congressmen, delegates to the Democratic National Convention, newspapers, and to the Democratic voters of the country and address urging the nomination and election of George Gray to the presidency. The appeal declares that the special privileges which have been distributed by the Republican party are at the roots of the existing financial troubles. It characterizes the tendency toward centralization of power in the present national administration as little short of Czarism.

George Gray is declared to be the fittest for the presidency of those who have been mentioned in connection with the nomination. His public record and private character are reviewed, and the fact that he is not seeking the nomination is urged as an additional reason why he should be named.

NOT FOR BRYAN

Delegates Elected in West Pennsylvania are Opposed to Him.
PITTSBURGH, PA., April 12.—Many of the contests in yesterday's primary election remain undecided at midnight, and the indications are that the result in some instances will not be known for several days.

While neither figures on the results nor names of the successful candidates for delegates to the Democratic National Convention are obtainable to-night, it is practically certain that the Bryan forces have suffered an almost complete defeat in Western Pennsylvania. In Allegheny county the returns so far tabulated indicate that they have not won a single delegate, either to the national convention or to the State convention. The party organization, led by Colonel J. M. Guffy, opposed the Bryan forces, and the Denver convention, while the fight for instructed delegates was made by the Bryan Democratic League.

Little attention, however, has been paid to any of the figures in the Democratic contest, and no comprehensive statement regarding them will be possible before the official count is made.

SCHERR LEADS

Hearne Withdraws From Race for Governor of West Virginia.
WHEELING, W. VA., April 12.—Following his unexpected defeat by Auditor Scherr in the Marshall county primary, Hon. H. H. Hearne to-night gave out a letter withdrawing from the contest for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. This leaves the field clear to State Auditor A. C. Scherr and Secretary of State Charles W. Swisher. Swisher led and yesterday, when ten counties held primaries or conventions, and of the 154 State convention delegates selected, Scherr secured 106, Hearne 8 and Swisher 40. Scherr now has a slight lead and will probably win the nomination.

FOUNDERS' DAY

British Ambassador to Deliver Address at University of Virginia To-day.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., April 12.—The birthday of the Father of Democracy and the eighty-ninth anniversary of the founding of the University of Virginia will be celebrated at the institution to-morrow. The British Ambassador, Hon. James Bryce, who will deliver the founders' day address, reached Charlottesville at 7 o'clock to-night in a private car attached to the Washington and Florida limited, over the Southern Railway. In the party do Mr. J. B. Bryce, of Cambridge University.

The Founders' Day exercises occur at noon in Cabell Hall. The students will be given a holiday and will march in procession to the hall, followed by the faculty and in car and gown. Mr. Bryce will visit Monticello to-morrow afternoon, instead of witnessing the baseball game between Virginia and Dartmouth.

SEALERS SUNK

Ice Crashes Grand Lake, and She Goes to Bottom—Other Ships Injured.
ST. JOHN'S, N. F., April 12.—Bringing tidings of a sinking, the steamer Grand Lake, of the sealing fleet, and the serious injury of several others caught in the grip of ice floes, the steam sealer New Foundland limped into port to-day leaking badly. The New Foundland's bows and stern were crushed by ice, and her crew of 200 men were forced to stand by for hours pumping and bailing to keep the vessel afloat.

The Grand Lake met with disaster last Sunday. She was shut up in the ice, and her crew, who were on until her sides gave way and even her engines were crushed. Her crew, numbering 214 men, managed their escape to the steamer Vanguard, which was close by.

A catch of 20,000 seals went down with the Grand Lake. This cargo was valued at \$130,000, and was insured.

The steamers Iceland and Ranger were also crushed badly by the ice, but were kept afloat until their crews could escape. The ice floes and make them safe.

The steamer Algerin is also reported badly damaged.

CONVERSION OF MISS ELKINS

Cardinal Gibbons Cables the Pope That Difficulties Have Been Removed.
ROME, April 12.—The Pope has received a telegram from Cardinal Gibbons announcing that all difficulties in regard to the conversion of Miss Katherine Elkins, who it is said, is to marry the Duke of the Abruzzi, have been overcome.

It is learned from an official source that the delay in the official announcement of the Abruzzi marriage does not mean obstacles to the marriage, which is certain.

The Duke of the Abruzzi will remain in Rome until April 15, when he is likely to rejoin his ship.

FIRE DESTROYS SQUARE MILE OF BOSTON SUBURB

Business Section of Chelsea Wiped Out, With Loss of Over \$10,000,000—Ten Thousand Persons Homeless and Suffering.

FOUR WOMEN KILLED AND FIFTY PEOPLE INJURED

Among the Buildings Burned Were Thirteen Churches, Two Hospitals, City Hall, Public Library, Five Schoolhouses, Twelve Factories and Three Hundred Dwellings—Fire Departments from Ten Cities After Eleven Hours of Fighting, Check Flames.

BOSTON, MASS., April 12.—Fire devastated more than one square mile of the manufacturing, business and tenement district of Chelsea to-day, entailing a loss estimated at fully \$10,000,000.

The fire started at 10:40 A. M., near the Boston Blacking Company's works on West Third Street, near the Everett City line, and crossed the city, a distance of one mile and a quarter to Marginal, opposite the East Boston shore. So far as can be learned there were four fatalities and half a hundred persons were injured.

Among the buildings burned were thirteen churches, Frost Hospital, Children's Hospital, City Hall, Fitz Public Library, five school houses, a dozen or more factories and about 300 tenements and dwellings. The residential section of the city, where the wealthier classes reside, escaped the flames. In the retail section, through which the fire passed, was twenty business blocks, which were destroyed. The United States Marine buildings were not damaged.

Four Women Dead.

The Chelsea fire was practically under control at 9 o'clock to-night. Four women are known to be dead as a result of the fire. None of the bodies have been identified. The fire originated in the rear of the Boston Blacking Company's works, on West Third Street, near the eastern division of the Boston and Maine Railroad and in close proximity to the Everett City line. A terrific gale from the northwest, which at times had a velocity of sixty miles an hour, carried burning shingles, embers and myriads of sparks to a score of wooden buildings, most of them of cheap construction. The fire started almost in the extreme southwest section of the city and cut a path to the end of Maverick Street, at the extreme southeastern end of the city, which borders on Chelsea Creek. This point is about one mile and a quarter from the point where the conflagration began. The flames swept through the heart of the retail business section, which was about midway between the two extreme limits reached by the fire.

Buildings Burned.

Among the structures destroyed were thirteen churches, two hospitals, the public library, City Hall, five school houses, twenty business blocks, nearly a score of factories and upwards of 300 tenements and dwelling houses. The flames reached Broadway, the principal street of the city, at a point between Third and Fifth Streets, and destroyed the Masonic Hall, Odd Fellows' Hall and Bennett Block. The flying embers and the showers of sparks were carried across Chelsea Creek to the East Boston district and the East Boston engines were obliged to return from Chelsea to protect property in their district. A militia call by Mayor Beck, of Chelsea, brought out the First Company, Coast Artillery, Captain Renfrew commanding, in order to guard property moved into the streets from buildings in the path of the flames. Colonel Wood, commanding the marines at the Charlestown navy yard, volunteered the services of the Fifteenth Company, stationed at the navy yard, and on request of Mayor Beck the company was sent to the fire under command of Captain Hill. Rear Admiral Swift, of the navy yard, also sent out all the men from the receiving ship Wabash who were not already off on leave. These sailors were not sent under command of any officer, but were instructed to give their services wherever needed.

Marines Kept Order.

Marines with fixed bayonets held back the crowds, while the militia and soldiers helped families remove their goods. Advance squads of the military and police were sent ahead, warning families living in the path of the fire, which leaped from block to block with astonishing rapidity.

The crowds generally were easily handled. Occasionally some excited house owner would burst through the cordon of militia and marines to dash into a house for some forgotten valuables, but the presence of so many uniformed guards overawed the rougher element.

The fire started on the marshes bordering the eastern division tracks of the Boston and Maine Railroad in rear of Boston Blacking Company's works, where employees were at work drying out rags. The company's works are situated at the end of West Third Street, half a mile northwest of the heart of the city. A series of long, low wooden buildings comprised the works, stored for the most part with old rags and paper. The exact cause of the fire is not known, but it is supposed that spontaneous combustion among the rags was responsible. A high wind, blowing at forty-five miles an hour from the northwest, drove the flames from the rag heaps directly upon wooden buildings of the Boston Blacking Company.

The buildings were soon a mass of flames, and as surrounding property consisted largely of wooden buildings for storing rags, the fire department realized that a serious fire was threatened and a general alarm was sounded.

In the gale, shingles, burning paper and oil-soaked rags were flung high into the air and went soaring over the city. Within half an hour the Rosenfeld Brothers' three-store wooden rag factory on Maple Street, was in flames, as was the Chaplin and Soden Car Company Works.

Tons of tarred paper stored in the latter factory created a dense smoke, which made the work of the firemen extremely difficult.